

DATE: August 29, 2007

TO: Council Members

FROM: S. Derek Phelps, Executive Director

RE: **DOCKET NO. 343** - MCF Communications bg, Inc and Omnipoint Communications, Inc. application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 237 Sandy Hollow Road, Groton, Connecticut.

I. Introduction

The application is from MCF Communications bg, Inc. and Omnipoint Communications, Inc. a subsidiary of T-Mobile USA, Inc. d/b/a T-Mobile (T-Mobile) for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility and associated equipment in the Town of Groton, Connecticut.

The Applicants propose to construct a 130-foot monopole at 237 Sandy Hollow Road in Groton. The 3.35 acre property is used by the Mystic River Ambulance Association. The proposed 35-foot by 50-foot fence equipment compound would be located in the eastern portion of the property.

The proposed monopole would be designed to accommodate use by all Connecticut licensed wireless carriers and the Groton Public safety communications antennas, if requested. T-Mobile would locate antennas with a centerline of 127 feet above ground level.

II. Technical

The application includes relevant maps, description of the proposed site, costs, a description of the environmental effects of the proposed construction, and health and safety information. The application meets statutory technical requirements for processing the application. Council staff believes additional information can be obtained through pre-hearing interrogatories. This project would not require an outside consultant.

III. Administrative Review

The applicant has stated that all service and filing requirements pursuant to General Statutes § 16-501 (b) have been fulfilled. The applicant stated that notice to the general public was published in The Day and The Norwich Bulletin.

IV. Procedural

The Council must schedule a hearing for the proceeding between 30 and 150 days after receipt of an application. The Council must also appoint a custodian of the docket and designate a place for the deposition of the transcript. Staff recommends designating Carriann Mulcahy as custodian of the docket, holding the public hearing in the Town of Groton on Tuesday, October 30, 2007, and depositing the transcript in the Groton Town Hall.

V. Proposed Schedule

Application received	07/13/07
Completeness review	08/29/07
Pre-hearing Questions	
• Set-One Filed	09/14/07 (tentative)
• Set-One responses due	09/28/07 (tentative)
Pre-hearing conference (11:00 a.m.)	10/15/07
Pre-filed testimony due	10/23/07
Deadline to request Party/Intervenor status	10/23/07
Field review (2:00 p.m.)	10/30/07
Hearing (3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.)	10/30/07
Close of Record	11/29/07
Draft Findings of Fact	12/13/07 (tentative)
Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion & Decision & Order	01/09/08 (tentative)
Deadline for Decision	01/09/08
180-day extension date	07/07/08

Christina Lepage
Siting Analyst